

Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 7th December 2015 at St John's School, Provender Way, Grove Green commencing at 8.50 pm.

Councillors present: Mrs Wendy Hinder (Chairman), Mr B Hinder, Mr P Dengate, Mrs P Brooks, Mr Ivor Davies, Mr B Hinder, Mr M Hinchliffe, Mr D Hollands and Mrs M Waller together with the Clerk.

1 Apologies and absences

None as all members present.

2 Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

During discussions on 15/508978 the chairman referred to an e-mail regarding the application and so declared that she had been lobbied.

The meeting was not adjourned as no members of the public were present.

3 Planning Applications for Consideration

Noted the Clerk's report that MBC has been supplying different deadline dates for response to planning applications. The e-mail notification often having a different date to the paper application.

15/508978/FULL – Change of use from agricultural land to equestrian use and construction of a 20m x 60m outdoor riding arena at Stone House, Sandy Lane, Maidstone.

Members raised concern about the lack of certain information and were confused about some aspects of the application. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would contact the planning officer to try to obtain further information or explanation. On the information contained within the application members were minded to object but did not wish to see the application reported to the planning committee.

Issues raised were

- Concern about the foul waste run off from the area and where it would end up.
- Need for a condition that there is no external lighting erected in the area. This is to safeguard the AONB from light pollution.
- Need for a condition that this ménage is for residential private use only as the house is on an extremely narrow cul de sac country land and members did not want to see lots more traffic if it was run as a business.
- The lack of an application for stables, although it was recognised that one might follow.
- The supporting information stated that the proposed arena is for private family use but also states 'any disabled rider....' Which seemed to indicate that a disabled rider facility might be offered.

The Clerk to report back to members the results of the discussion with the planning officer. **Action: Clerk.**

15/509199/FULL – Conversion of garage to habitable room together with alterations to fenestration and insertion of rooflight. Erection of single storey rear extension at The Heights, Weaving Street, Weaving. *Do not wish to object.*

15/509459/TPO TPO application to crown reduction of 40% and crown lift 4 metres one Silver Birch at 4 Olivine Close Walderslade Kent ME5 9NQ. Deadline 7 December 2015. **Ratified** Clerk's decision, after consulting members

Do not wish to object defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

4 **Next Meeting**

Next full environment meeting 14th December at Beechen Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date